STATEMENT (CONCLUSIONS)

Hypofractionated radiotherapy for SCC in the presence of advanced gross disease is not very effective in achieving long-term local control of the disease, however it

improved quality of life in affected patients in the medium term with minimum side effects.

Hypofractionated radiation is likely effective in the adjuvant treatment of incompletely resected SCC (MST 547 days). Larger studies are needed to confirm our findings.

Prognostic factors for survival in dogs with cerebral glioma receiving primary radiotherapy: a pilot study

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OBJECTIVES

To identify prognostic factors for survival in dogs with cerebral glioma receiving radiotherapy.

METHODS

Medical records of client owned dogs, that received radiotherapy as sole treatment for cerebral glioma, were retrospectively reviewed. Presumptive diagnosis was based on computed tomographic and magnetic resonance images. Cox Proportion Hazard model was performed to

assess factors associated with survival. Factors included signalment data (age, gender, weight, time from diagnosis to radiation therapy start) radiological data (tumour size, midline crossing, tumour location, contrast pattern enhancement) and radiotherapy protocol.

RESULTS

17 dogs were included. Median age was 9 years and the median weight was 27.2kg. Median survival time was 330 days (range 81–1590) and the median follow up time was 300 days. Median tumour size (maximum diameter) was 15mm (range 7.7–26) and median time from diagnosis to radiation therapy start was 15 days. 11 patients received a total dose of radiation greater than 40Gy and 6 patients received a total dose lower than 40Gy. 2/17 dogs were still alive at the end of the study and 11/17 dogs were euthanized due to progressive disease. None of the variables examined were associated with survival but crossing the midline and radiation therapy protocol were approaching statistical significance ($p = 0.057$ and $p = 0.08$ respectively).

STATEMENT (CONCLUSIONS)

The results show good survival for dogs with presumed glioma receiving radiotherapy. Although a significant prognostic factor was not identified this may be due to the small cohort and further numbers are required to assess the importance of radiation protocol and tumours that cross the midline.

Objective and subjective evaluation of nausea in dogs prior to repeated chemotherapy

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OBJECTIVES

Investigate if the conditioned response of anticipatory nausea due to repeated chemotherapy could be identified

and quantified with a behavioural assessment tool and by measuring a biomarker, plasma arginine vasopressin (AVP), in dogs.

METHODS

Dogs due to receive repeated doses of doxorubicin, carboplatin or vinblastine at an oncology referral centre were recruited. Data was collected from 14 dogs over 50 separate visits.

- a. Nausea behaviours were assessed prior to repeated chemotherapy using a numerical rating scale descriptor tool (Kenward et al., 2014).
- b. AVP was measured using residual peripheral blood following a complete blood count undertaken for clinical purposes
- c. Patients were monitored for chemotherapy-induced adverse events (CIAE) and scored using the Veterinary Co-operative Oncology Group-Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events.